

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement paragraph, which includes markings:

The invention is generally directed to a ~~novel and unique~~ method for efficiently loading bulk data into a relational database with reduced load time. A database with record data loaded therein is provided in a computer's main memory. A coordinating program [[in]] is invoked as well as a standard load utility program that issues record data input requests, opens record data from external media and loads record data to the database therefrom. With the coordinating program record data input requests made by the load utility from external media are intercepted. Record data input requests from external media are replaced with record data input requests from the computer's main memory. Record data from the computer's main memory is inserted directly into the database by the load utility. As a result, delays encountered by reading of input files on the external media by the load utility [[is]] are avoided thereby ~~making the bulk loading of data into a database more efficient by reducing load time and~~ freeing up computer resources.